

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated September 11, 2008, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2 and 4-17 as anticipated by Bakulin (US 6714873) and indicated that claim 3 would be allowable if re-written in independent form.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons set out below.

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 3, which has been canceled. Because claim 1 is commensurate in scope with allowable claim 3, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and the claims that depend from it are allowable.

Claim 14 has been amended to likewise incorporate the limitations of claim 3. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 14 and claim 15, which depends from it are allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present amendments place the case in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully requests that Examiner enter the amendments and allow the case. In the event the Examiner has any questions or issues regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned prior to the issuance of any written action.

Respectfully submitted,
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